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12-10-2019

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U. S. Department of Justice

(MATERIAL MUST NOT BE REMOVED FROM OR ADDED TO THIS FILE)

FEDERAL BUREAU  
*of*

INVESTIGATION

Bureau File Number

See also Nos.

CLASSIFICATION NO.

100

75497

Serials

Volume Number

100-~~25506~~ 75497

150-75504  
130-75506

*(Handwritten mark)*

New York Office

No. \_\_\_\_\_

Re: \_\_\_\_\_

Open Case \_\_\_\_\_

No Case \_\_\_\_\_

Make File \_\_\_\_\_

*Head File*  
*2-27-46*

New York, New York

FOIA(b)(7) - (D)

LCD:UAF

MEMO

[Redacted Box]

100-45872-3305

February 8, 1946  
*4/6/44*  
*BS*  
*#9*  
*find refs.*

RE: RUTH RUSS  
 SECURITY MATTER (C)

*open and file*  
*now*  
**INDEXED**

During the investigation of the case entitled "LILLIE BERGMAN, Assistant Clerk, Local Board 39, Selective Service System, New York City; INTERNAL SECURITY - HATCH ACT", New York File 101-639, there was obtained through a trash cover on apartment 2-C, 108 West 65th Street, her apartment, a card having on it the following:

" 61 E. 2. (Russ. or Thuro.)

- (c) LILLIAN BERGMAN - 108 W. 84 CPA
- SONIA KERNES - 108 W. 86 CPA
- PAULINE RAY - 108 W 86 CPA
- (c) ANNEU GORDOS - 126 W. 85 CPA
- LILLIAN KRIEGER - 110 W 84
- RUTH ALERSON - 135 W 84
- ESTHER STERNAN - 126 W 85 c/o LEVINAN (?) CPA
- PHIL RUSS - 108 W 86 CPA
- RUTH RUSS - 108 W 86 CPA
- LILLIAN BERHADDS - 334 W 86

The original of this card is being kept as an exhibit in file 101-639.

On January 16, 1946 LILLIE BERGMAN, in a Hatch Act interview, admitted membership in the THOMAS JEFFERSON CLUB of the COMMUNIST POLITICAL ASSOCIATION, stating that she had joined in the fall of 1944. Due to this admission on the part of LIND BERGMAN, and from the appearance of the above-described card obtained through the trash cover, it is believed likely that the individuals named on the card are also members of the COMMUNIST POLITICAL ASSOCIATION.

A check of the indices of the New York Office with regard to these individuals disclosed the following:

SONIA KERNES - no record  
 PAULINE RAY - 100-59703-6705 reflects that a PAULINE RAY of 108 West 65th Street, New York City, is a member of the 7th Assembly

FEB 5 - 1946

ROUTED TO

WFM

*to Robt. C. Davis*  
*to Louis W. Gower*

100-75504-1

MEMO

February 2, 1945

District Section of the COMMUNIST POLITICAL ASSOCIATION, according to the records of the New York County Committee of the COMMUNIST POLITICAL ASSOCIATION, 147 4th Avenue, New York City. This information was supplied to Special Agents A. R. Swanson, R. C. Garden, and J. H. Garland by a reliable and highly confidential source on March 16, 1944. In reporting this data a temporary confidential informant symbol should be used. This source also disclosed that PAULINE RAY was a member of the INTERNATIONAL LADIES GARMENT WORKERS UNION - AFL - Local No. 22.

ANDREW GOMBOZ - Reference 100-88986, serials 22 and 23, disclosed that ANDREW GOMBOZ, 126 West 86th Street, is known to have sent communications in 1943 to Governor THOMAS E. DREW, urging the release of MORRIS U. SCHAPPEL, the former professor of CITY COLLEGE OF NEW YORK who was convicted of perjury in connection with the HARRY CONDEY COMMITTEE investigation of Communist activities in New York schools.

LILLIAN FRIESER - no information identifiable with this individual was found in the references.

RUTH ALERSON - no record

ROSEMARY STURMAN - no record

PHIL RUSS - no record

RUTH RUSS - The informative indices maintained in the Communist Library reflects that a RUTH H. RUSS, New York City, was secretary in 1941 of the New York Office of the NATIONAL FEDERATION FOR CONSTITUTIONAL LIBERTIES. From the data at hand, it was not possible to determine whether this person is identical with the RUTH RUSS now residing at 108 West 86th Street, New York City. *Letter filed*

LILLIAN HERRMANN - no information identifiable with this individual was found in the references.

In view of the above data reflecting that these persons are probably members of the COMMUNIST POLITICAL ASSOCIATION, it is recommended that investigation of them be made under the Security Matter - C classification.

ROBERT C. DAVIS  
Special Agent

New York 7, New York

May 6, 1946

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

RE: MRS. JOHN J. ABT, was:  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

FOIA(b)(7) - (D)

Dear Sir:

There are submitted herewith the original and three copies of a two-page log of a conference between JESSICA SMITH, editor of SOVIET RUSSIA TODAY, and RUTH RUSS, Executive Secretary of the Women's Committee of the NATIONAL COUNCIL OF AMERICAN-SOVIET FRIENDSHIP. This conference was reported by Confidential Informant [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, on February 13, 1946.

Individuals mentioned in the conference are believed to be identical with the following:

GILDERSLEEVE - Dean VIRGINIA GILDERSLEEVE of BERNARD COLLEGE

Mrs. TRUMAN - Mrs. HARRY S. TRUMAN, wife of the President

This log is being submitted to the Bureau because it reflects that RUTH RUSS did not send an invitation to Mrs. TRUMAN for the Red Army Day dinner at the WALDORF-ASTORIA HOTEL, New York City, on February 21, 1946, which was sponsored by the H.C.A.S.F., because Mrs. TRUMAN allegedly gave tacit support to the action of the D.A.R., excluding the entertainer HAZEL SCOTT from Constitution Hall in Washington, D. C. RUTH RUSS considers this action on the part of Mrs. TRUMAN as being an "insult to the Soviet Union".

The log also reflects that Dean GILDERSLEEVE was not invited to the dinner because "she wasn't so terribly cooperative last year".

Very truly yours,

*E. E. Conroy*  
E. E. CONROY, SAC

ENCLOSURES (4)  
CC 100-75504

BW:DJ  
100-50674

100-75504-2

*Bel*

FOIA(b)(7) - (D)

2/13/46

To: RUTH RUSS  
From: JESSICA SMITH

R: ....make those changes and I'll send SONIA down for it JESSICA.  
J: Oh, I thought you just had a copy of that.

R: No, I don't have it in front of me...  
J: Okay

R: ....she just did it in the rough because I thought you wanted to change it all around.  
J: Okay, I have it here for her.

R: Okay  
J: ....and now on the list, the only other...I didn't see GILDERSLEEVE on the list.

R: Well we took her out because she wasn't so terribly cooperative last year, but if you feel you want to ask her anyway, we can.  
J: I'd ask her...

R: Yes  
J: ....because she might send a message ...(Ind.)

R: Yes  
J: ....and did we ever try/Mrs. TRUMAN involved?

R: No we haven't. We've kind of stayed away from it, you know, for various reasons, but if you feel you want to send her a notice we can now. You know she, you know what she did on that whole thing, I, you know, they refused to have the Negro singer there and, you know, you know that women's group — you know the....  
J: No, I don't know anything about what happened.

R: While you were away, HAZEL SCOTT was to sing in Washington....  
J: Yeah

R: And the, they refused to give her the whole, you know, the revolutionary group, you know...  
J: Yeah, yeah

R: ...that witness group...  
J: Yeah

R: ...and she went right ahead and went to it and didn't make a statement but it was tacit to approval of the thing, and of course everyone was shocked beyond everything...  
J: Uh huh

R: ...and I just thought we should stay away from...  
J: Yeah

R: ...them for a while after a thing like that...  
J: Yeah

R: ...I mean...  
J: Yeah, okay.

R: ...it's sort of an insult to the Soviet Union.  
J: Yeah, well that just doesn't leave....(Ind.)

R: Yeah  
J: ..But I think...I think that if GILDERSLEEVE...

R: Daughters of the American Revolution, you know that group  
J: Yeah, yeah. I think if GILDERSLEEVE would....

R: All right, we can....(Ind.)... MILDRED THOMPSON because she's important too, but GILDERSLEEVE is really more important as a name...  
J: Yeah

R: ...we can send it to her and if she says no, all right....  
J: Yeah

R: I ....(Ind.).... by asking.  
J: Yeah. You want this list back...

R: Yes, I'll send SONIA down then.  
J: Okay

R: All right, thank you JESSICA.

- END -

Director, FBI

June 10, 1946

SAC, New York

MRS. JOHN J. ABT, was.  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

FOIA(b)(7) - (D)

There are submitted herewith the original and 3 copies of a 3 page log of a conference between the subject, who is editor of "SOVIET RUSSIA TODAY", and RUTH RUSS, executive secretary of the WOMAN'S COMMITTEE OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF AMERICAN SOVIET FRIENDSHIP. This conference was reported by Confidential Informant [redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, on March 21, 1946.

Mrs. DAVIES is believed to refer to Mrs. JOSEPH E. DAVIES, wife of the former Ambassador to the Soviet Union. MURIEL is believed to refer to MURIEL DRAPER of the NATIONAL COUNCIL OF AMERICAN SOVIET FRIENDSHIP. DOROTHY PETERA is believed to be Mrs. LIONEL C. PETERA, JR. a sponsor of the AMERICAN COMMITTEE FOR YUGOSLAV RELIEF. MORFORD is believed to refer to RICHARD MORFORD of the NATIONAL COUNCIL OF AMERICAN SOVIET FRIENDSHIP.

This log is being forwarded to the Bureau because it reflects that Mrs. DAVIES contributed \$200 to an appeal which informant believes was on behalf of the WOMAN'S COMMITTEE of the NATIONAL COUNCIL OF AMERICAN SOVIET FRIENDSHIP.

JB  
cc - NY 100-75504 ✓

EN:CTC  
100-50874

100-75504-3  
rm6



Outgoing

3/21/46  
12:43 PM

To: JESSICA SMITH  
From: RUTH RUSS

R: ....check with you on how much had come in in the appeal....  
J: Yeah

R: ....and so on, and I've written you a memo on it..it's almost seven hundred dollars, six eighty-five, something....  
J: Uh huh

R: ....and we're sending out a follow up of a card which I've sent to you about asking all those who haven't given to give now....  
J: Yeah

R: We think that will bring in some more.  
J: How about Mrs. DAVIES...(Ind.)

R: She sent \$200 dear.  
J: Oh, she sent \$200.

R: Oh, sure.  
J: Did she do anything with any of her special friends?

R: She said she couldn't at the moment. We wrote to her about that ....  
J: I see

R: ....because she said she's getting ready for this child DEENIE (ph.) who she's getting married off....  
J: I see

R: ....and not to send her anything to Atlantic City but she would do something on it later on....  
J: I see

R: ....and MURIEL has to write her a nice note of thanks, and I think she will remind her about it again.  
J: Yeah, yeah, I see



PERERA

R: ....and then ELEANOR and DOROTHY PERR (ph.) and a lot of them have not sent it in yet. We expect a substantial amount from them. We're hoping that ..(Ind.)....

J: It should certainly be ...(Ind.)

R: ....as a matter of fact if they don't answer the card I think we can just phone them and ask them.

J: I think so. I think there should be a real follow-up because....

R: Oh, sure!

J: ...certainly we should do better than that...

R: Yes, well I think so too, but I think on the basis of a first veiling everyone tells me that's good for percentage...

J: Uh huh

R: ....that through the mail one doesn't get that much, but if you follow it up....

J: Yeah, yeah

R: ....and then we have a very wonderful finance set-up, which you'll see in the minutes, which is very comprehensive. We're really getting in a lot of money....

J: Uh huh

PERERA

R: ....and DOROTHY and LIONEL PERRAR (ph.) are both taking the chairmanship of that....

J: Oh, wonderful!

R: ...so we're meeting again....

J: The only thing that worries me is that she's taking the chairmanship of everything this year...

R: I know, but we're pinning it down...

J: Uh huh

R: ....we've been meeting in her home and she in mine...

J: She's doing the same thing for the Music Committee.

R: I know, but she's really very much interested in our stuff...

J: Uh huh

R: ....and she's got good ideas...

J: Well that's good

R: ...and we've been ...(Ind.)

J: I think the main thing is to make sure that she really follows through on this....

R: Well we've made her, because we make her come to meetings, and then we have the meetings right at her home so she can't be away

J: That's a good idea.

R: So you'll get a memo on all this and then you'll see in the minutes about your party and what we're going to do on that and everything. We're going to follow through on that till the end of April...

J: Okay. Fine.

R: ...and I've asked you for any dates that you have so that we don't make it for around then...

J: Yeah

R: ...give you a few days...I understand you were simply marvelous at the Music Society the other night. Some of the women heard you there...

J: Yeah, it was a nice...(Ind.)

R: ...they were crazy about it. They said it was a wonderful meeting.(Ind.)

J: It was a very good meeting. They really did a swell job on it.

R: Yes. Well that's grand, and we want to have a nice big crowd for you too...

J: Uh huh

R: ....and then we're going to give a party to Mr. MORFORD...a committee of women you see.

J: Yeah, that's nice.

R: ....(Ind.)...we have a lot of other things we're planning. We doing an event with MITZI's committee...with the Ed Committes up at Ethical ??? Cultural School. I got that for them in ....to prosecute those teachers' good-will service projects...

J: Uh huh

R: That's all in April, so we have plenty of things lined up, and then we want to get some things lined up for May too.

J: Okay, swell.

R: Right

J: All right, RUTH, thanks.

R: Right.

- END -

New York, New York  
September 26, 1947

MEMO

Re: NATIONAL COUNCIL OF AMERICAN  
SOVIET FRIENDSHIP, INC..  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

FOIA(b)(7) - (D)

Attached are two copies of a 13<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> page log reflecting a conversation between RUTH RUSS, Executive Secretary of the Committee of Women of this organization and MURIEL DRAPER, its Chairman. This conversation was reported by Confidential Informant [redacted] on May 15, 1947.

Here they discussed a meeting of the Board of Directors on the preceding evening. According to DRAPER, the National Council of American Soviet Friendship Inc. made a profit of \$12,497.00 from the recent bazaar. According to her, this is supposed to be the official final figure on this function. DRAPER also advised that the activities of the Speakers' Bureau will be curtailed. LEONA SARON, its Director, will remain but will be given additional duties.

According to DRAPER also, RUTH RUSS will be given other duties in addition to those she already has as Executive Secretary of the Committee of Women. According to DRAPER, THEODORE BAYER felt that the activities of this latter committee would be run entirely by volunteers. Both RUSS and DRAPER agreed that this is not a practical solution.

CC 100-75504 ✓  
100-25585

JOHN M. COLLINS, SA.

JMC:JLK  
100-7518

100-75504-4

FILED
SEP 23
NYC
ROUTED TO

JK

JMC:MMW

5/15/47  
11AM

ORAD(7)-(U)  
Incoming

TO: RUTH RUSS  
FROM: MURIEL DRAPER

O: Hello  
M: Hello, is Ruth Russ there?  
O: Just a moment.  
R: Hello  
M: Hello  
R: Yes dear.  
M: Yes—well  
R: What cooked?  
M: Er—we had a long—fairly long agenda and a very interesting one.  
R: Was it good?  
M: Yes it was good the er—  
R: How was the attitude of the board?  
M: Oh the attitude was very fine. We—they went into no details er—as far as names were concerned.  
R: Yeah—  
M: They called me up and gave me a long line.  
R: Yeah—that's that I thought.  
M: But her name didn't come into it at all and there was no personality involved and no criticism involved.  
R: No—I see  
M: It was put strictly on the basis of reorganization.  
R: Uh huh—I see.  
M: And er—of course first we had a check up on the bazaar.  
R: Yes  
M: We made twelve thousand, four hundred and ninety seven or something.  
R: Oh net?  
M: Yeah  
R: And Mary when I asked her yesterday said: I think it is a colossal failure and I don't think we made even turns out. How can she say things like that

and I was so upset. She said after she—but she said she couldn't tell until she checked every bill.

M: Well everything had been checked.

R: Yeah—well if they gave you those figures—that's practically twelve thousand dollars.

M: To him as far as the merchandise is concerned nineteen thousand or—

R: Gee whizz

M: Seven hundred and ninety three

R: That's marvelous

M: Just under twenty thousand.

R: Gee that's terrific dear, isn't it? — considering these days—

M: Why it's amazing.

R: That's wonderful and we have a residue of merchandise too.

M: Yes—so that would count it in as six hundred dollars because they are going to buy it.

R: Yeah

M: The locals are going to buy it—

R: Yeah

M: The locals are going to buy it at different stores.

R: We get the profit—we get the money on that—

M: Yeah

R: Yeah

M: And or—

R: But that is not included in the twelve thousand, four hundred ninety seven figure.

M: Yes

R: It is?

M: The whole thing—the twelve thousand is net.

R: I know where the ninety seven dollars comes from because I got that yesterday—that's our cut on the book store. We sent for that—which is swell too—

M: Er—then we sold over three thousand dollars' worth of paintings and our cut on that was whatever it was.

R: Yeah—tax.

M: And everything was tied or—

R: Two thousand?

M: More than that—it brought in three thousand something.

R: Wonderful.

M: And it cost us one thousand, eight hundred or something—so.

R: That's—that's excellent.

M: So that added to the merchandise brought it to nearly twenty two thousand. In other words we practically did exactly what we thought we'd do in the first place as far as the money is concerned.

R: Yeah.

M: It was about twenty five thousand and of course our expenses—well what they were—

R: Yeah. Well that's very good.

M: Our expenses were about eight thousand.

R: Well that's a lot of expenses.

M: Well—

R: But I suppose—

M: It's unavoidable I think.

R: I suppose you have to do it in order to make it—you know

M: Oh yes.

R: After all when we have a garden meeting, our expenses are terrific too. You know we pay four thousand for the garden or something like that—then we pay for extra help and mimeography and publicity and you know—

M: Yeah—well anyway the net figure that was given us—the final figure was twelve thousand, four hundred ninety seven or four hundred seventy nine maybe it was.

R: Yeah I think it's ninety seven because I think that's the ninety seven dollars we—

M: No that wouldn't make it more—

R: No not necessarily.

M: (ind.) — figures that go into it.

R: Well that's wonderful dear.

M: And Ted said it may be one hundred/<sup>dollars</sup> this way or a hundred dollars that way out—

R: Yeah

M: We may have made a hundred more or a hundred less.

R: Less—yeah.

M: But er—

R: But it's still

M: But it is almost up to the minute.

R: It's still damn good.

M: Then we had a discussion of—er Paulos' offer and the fact that it had not yet been matched—you know.

R: Yeah

M: And etc. and all that was perfectly amicably settled.

R: Yeah and was Phil there?—Phil Daffy (phonetic)?

M: No

R: No

M: Then we got to the personnel reorganization.

R: Yeah

M: And the point was that it would reduce our budget—after all we got our budget down now to about fifty thousand a year.

R: Yeah

M: At the beginning of those meetings it was about eighty thousand.

R: I remember.

M: Then we got it down to sixty. Now it's er—

R: Down to fifty.

M: Down to fifty and that's on the basis of the cuts that were only very generally spoken of. In other words I think the Speakers Bureau will be eliminated as such.

R: Uh huh.

M: In that we won't still send them out and in that we won't still be accessible and I gathered that the owner will certainly still be there.

R: Uh huh, but we wouldn't run it in the fashion we've been doing it.

M: No

R: No

M: And er—she would have to divide her labors I concluded—

R: With other things.

M: She would have to be a part of the reorganized staff.

R: Yeah

M: And er—they didn't say anything about Mitzi or—

R: No

M: Or any resignation there of any kind—

R: Well maybe its been straightened.

M: That was one of the things that was going to continue—er everything was—the only thing that was left out of naming of the thing was the Speakers Bureau (ind.)



R: Uh huh  
M: It was omitted.

R: Uh huh  
M: And then they got to the committee on women and then I (ind.) -- I mean at first it was so general that almost nobody--you know you couldn't tell what was er--

R: Cooking?  
M: Cooking, or who was going to be where, and I said: I have a very personal interest in what this reorganization means particularly to the committee of women because er--for obvious reasons, so I want to know how much the activity will be increased and how much the er--the help--the professional help will be decreased.

R: Yes  
M: And er--so they--you never heard anything like the language they all get into at these things.

R: Yeah--I bet.  
M: Morford gets into a--Neemish (phonetic) is much more simple.

R: Yeah--he is.  
M: Morford gets into a vocabulary there that you just can't see through in the dark--

R: No  
M: I mean you have--you have to burrow your way through it to find out what he's talking about and I had to (ind.)

R: Yeah--well that was right.  
M: And even Ted was evasive.

R: But yeah--that's the way they get  
M: But I said: I want to know this--I mentioned er--they said and the Executive Secretary, Mrs. Ruth Russ, will be called upon to--to er--to do more of the activities program etc. etc. So then I said well what does this mean in the way of actual er--I said is this going to be a separate function that she is going to take and the committee of women be/ to get along as best it can without her, or--cause I had to put it that way.

R: That's right. I'm glad you did.  
M: Or er--can it be so formulated that we can present to our committee the idea that our activities will be further strengthened and expanded, and that they've got to do more--or not that they have to do more, but that they'll be called upon to do more.

R: Yeah  
M: And so Ted said well all right--so then we put it to them that way. Well I said this is very important see because--

R: You don't kid around about these things.

M: I said well the idea is—I said what will the Technical Staff be and he —I said er—in other words I can't use this language any more. Are we still going to have a secretary?

R: Yeah—that's right.

M: And he said yes but she also with Ruth Russ will have to take on other activities and I said what do you mean by other activities Ted for example—

R: That's right.

M: Cite me an instance—what do you mean that Ruth will have to be doing, and he said well such activities as are planned in relation to meetings etc. etc. will take her out a great deal.

R: Out of the office?

M: Well that's what he meant.

R: Uh huh.

M: And it will take her er—into other — it will take her in and out a great deal and she won't be there all day and certainly you can just appoint some of your good volunteers there to take over some of the technical help and I said, now listen you have been in this business long enough and er—I have been in it almost long enough to know that you don't get volunteers to do that right off the bat. I said the reason that we've got good volunteers is that they have built themselves up with the program and the program was an educational one.

R: That's right.

M: And you do not get volunteers er—on the basis of coming in there and doing all their own typing or doing typing for the rest of us.

(continued) FOIA(b)(7)-(D)

R: No that's completely incorrect. They come in to do a special job.

M: I said they're good volunteers because they have been built up er—in relation to the project that they happened to be interested in and we can't say to anyone, well now don't bother any more about it just sit here and answer the telephone.

R: Oh no—that's completely—

M: So I said it will have to be very clear and what we'll have to do is to er—if on the basis of the wonderful volunteers we have in purely indicated directions, we can develop other people who have hitherto been inactive so that they would not mind sitting at the telephone if that's what you're talking about.

R: Yeah

M: I said we might find one person here or one person there who would take one day a week. In other words two days a week might be covered.

R: Yes

M: Er—but to expect them to do the technical work that will not otherwise

get done is a very dangerous thing to introduce into the volunteers that are already started er—because though some of them do their own typing, it's a very different matter and Ted said: Oh I think they'd be very glad to come in there—you can just give them a title etc. and I said—

R: Oh well that's just nonsense. You see that's the way to get—

M: I said you don't make that—you do not make that kind of change by appointing somebody.

R: Oh that's nonsense.

M: You can appoint ten people a day and it doesn't mean they'll do it and it doesn't mean that the work will get done if you're going to depend on the irregularity of volunteers in relation to technical help.

R: That's right.

M: And er—we wrangled it back and forth. Use to see Sam Levin (phonetic) looking at me as if Oh my god she really is learning something.

R: As if he didn't know it all along.

M: He never said a word on that, so I'm sure he knew that technically I was correct.

R: Yeah

M: But er—

R: He didn't do any yelling though?

M: No not a thing—he didn't say why of course you can do this and of course you can do that.

R: No—he shut up this time.

M: Because er—I said activities is a very wide title and a great deal of this has—a great deal of this work has been built very carefully by the day to day work of Ruth and the occasional guidance that I give or direction, but I said it is not done just in saying to somebody won't you come in there and do this and won't you come in there and do that.

R: Certainly not. It's done on a practic basis.

M: And er if the—if the program can er—if I can put the program before them in some such way that they can think it a natural development—

R: That's right

M: To go into this other, we'll see what we can do, but I said that it is very important that we don't for the sake of reorganization er—lose a very strong help that we have there. I said that it would be better if—some of the other activities were shared by other people, rather than have such a thing happen.

R: Did they agree to that?

M: No

R: No

M: In other words Neelish (phonetic) saw that I was going to press further

and further on the detail of it and so he began to be very good there about stopping the whole discussion.

R: Yeah

M: And saying well have we got the consent of the board for this reorganization and we will finish the details later.

R: Yeah

M: And I said as far as I'm concerned yes—I perfectly recognize that we do have to reorganize and that we have to reduce and er—in fact I think it's quite correct.

R: Yeah

M: And er—somebody said—

R: Is it going to go into effect immediately?

M: We can send out a statement that er — you know there were many propositions brought up for raising more money both for the defense bond and Weckel Paulos' offer and a lot of other things.

R: Just a moment Muriel. (pause) There is another call dear coming — well she'll have to wait that's all.

M: And er—they said it would be a good selling point to say we had brought our budget down from eighty to sixty and now to fifty.

R: It is good.

M: And that nothing on the program would be interfered with, and that darling er—woman from Philadelphia (ind.)

R: Mrs. Elizabeth Frazer (phonetic).

M: Frazer.

R: Elizabeth Frazer yeah.

M: Said er— I don't think that's a good selling point because they'll say if you can bring it from eighty to fifty and nothing is changed—then how extravagant you have been—which was much to the point.

R: Yeah

M: So er—it will need further discussion

R: Yeah

M: And I said I want to have this further discussed and—

R: Was Adele there?

M: Who

R: Adele wasn't on the board.

M: No

R: No she's not on the board—Elizabeth is.

M: Elizabeth is.

R: Yeah. I like Elizabeth too—she's cute.

M: And so that's the way it is and what the details though—it will be or whether it means he'd see about the field division—that it would be—there would be a change there and they would have somebody er—though it may not be an economy in actual salary when it worked out, but that the technical staff would be reduced.

R: Uh huh

M: But the person who would be doing the field division would be somebody who would be working there for many hours and that you know.

R: Yeah, well in other words they're not going to keep either girls at the bazaar.

M: They're keeping May and Hilda I think.

R: Oh they are.

M: And they're going to put another person in there.

R: Oh they are.

M: That is what Nancy was fussing about.

R: I see

M: It cannot be on the basis of reorganization because if they're going to put another person in there who's going to be able to work twelve to fourteen hours a day—she said that will cost them as much overtime as four of us working seven hours a day.

R: Uh huh

M: That's what she said on the telephone.

R: Yeah

M: And I said er—that I don't know—I gather that what they meant by that to Nancy was that very often she was not there.

R: Yeah—well that is true dear as far as that's concerned. You know that—I told you.

M: So er—

R: And you don't run a field on seven hours a day. I worked in the field at Russian Relief dear and I worked day and night—that's the only way you run a field cause you have to go out at night to get your credit—

M: What I wondered was even though they kept using these different vocabularies—I wondered if what they intended to do was to put you in charge of the field.

R: Oh darling I can't do<sup>all</sup> that. I mean that's crazy.

M: Well I would think it (ind.) I would certainly find out whether that is what they mean.

R: Yeah—well that's what I'm a little worried about. I think cause they say going out a lot—you see if they're going to—

M: Well yes—when I kept pressing Ted and said for example and for instance, he just wouldn't say except that it would take her out a great deal.

R: Yeah—well that is what it sounds like—sound like—

M: Activities etc. and I think that er—that what they were meaning though they were not saying then was that they would put you and Anna and Hilda and May in charge of field and women in effect—and the Committee of Women helping along too.

R: Field—it is probably what they're planning. Its an amalgamation of field, women and activities.

M: That's what I gathered.

R: Yeah, but that's terrific Muriel.

M: It was not so said and they were very careful the minute I got near it to try to get me away from it.

R: They'll have to put it all down for me right on the line.

M: That is right.

R: And you'll have to back me up dear.

M: That's right.

R: Because otherwise dear it will just become crazy. I mean it is not possible for one person to do all those things—not and keep your sanity and do a job. The thing is this that when you split that way—you see what worries me is I do have a high standard and I hate things done in a sloppy way and no one person can do all of that. It is not possible if you're going to do a job—a real job—means that you'll do a little on field, and a little on activities and a little on the Committee of Women. Because you can't in the working day do that even if you work day and night.

M: Of course Ted said you mean to say you haven't got anybody there who can sit and answer the telephone.

R: Well of course we can—

M: And I said well certainly we have.

R: We have a lot of them and he knows that darn well.

M: You know—I mean er—Mrs. Barnes (phonetic) is er—

R: Of course she's been wonderful

M: Couldn't do anything else with her—she would take one day.

R: Yeah she does

M: If we could absolutely rely on her.

R: Of course

M: And I think Semi (phonetic) would take maybe another day.

R: Certainly and—

M: Answering the telephone and keeping the memorandums straight.

R: That's right.

M: And Semi could even do some typing.

R: Sure—she does.

M: But you can't expect er—for instance Semi and Mrs. Barns to answer all the correspondence.

R: Of course.

M: Semi—I would trust with it one day.

R: Yeah but not Barns

M: But not Barns.

R: I trust Semi more than one day. She'd know how to do it but er—

M: And I think that what we er—but I don't think we ought to—I think Safeur (phonetic) and er—Brownstein and er Virginia and—

R: And Sylvia Sateour (phonetic) too. I mean they could all—

M: Yeah that is what I mean

R: They could really become sort of an executive committee.

M: I said Safeur is that wrong, or is it Sature?

R: Safeur dear.

M: Yeah, well that's what I said.

R: Yeah

M: But I don't know anyone of them er—would have to be called—I think Secretary of the Committee of Women or whatever it is they want to call them.

R: Yeah, yeah.

M: Or vice chairman

R: Yeah

M: Or second vice chairman, or something.

R: That's right.

M: We ought to come forward of course on that.

R: Yeah

M: But when I could not—when they kept speaking of this mysterious one person you know—

R: Yeah that's it.

M: Would have to work more actively in the field.

R: Yeah

M: Field division and at the same time when it was spoken of in relation to the Committee of Women—why then it was an expansion of activities. I just said to myself well here it is and this is what they won't tell me.



R: Yeah—well we'll—

M: I may be wrong but that er—

R: Well we'll have to discuss all that because I'll have to know perfectly well what I have got to do here. I mean otherwise it won't be possible to do it.

M: Yes and they've got to make it very clear.

R: Very clear—that's right.

M: What the position of responsibility is there—because er—we can't afford to let it fall apart.

R: Exactly and there's a limit to what I can do.

M: Jessica did say well of course the Committee of Women does a great deal that this board as such doesn't know anything about.

R: Good

M: And of course what they er—probably were thinking to themselves—that in a pinch like this the point is that radio is important, that correspondence is important, that er—etc. etc. are important, but that nothing is important as the whole overall figure.

R: Well that's—

M: The overall function

R: Yeah

M: Will be fulfilled and that maybe some of these activities would<sup>have to</sup> be restricted in order to expand the others

R: Yeah but you can't restrict activities of that nature if you want to build a women's organization or the backbone of a large organization because actually it is because the women have a program that they do a job and if you're just going to—

M: Yes, I think the idea is that the women as such would be willing and this we must make—have to have perfectly clear before we have that meeting on the twenty second.

R: Well we'll have to sit down with Ted and Dick and discuss this very thoroughly—and Jessica.

M: That it isn't the point of building a stronger and stronger women's organization—that it is a—the point is to build a stronger and stronger council.

R: That's right.

M: And that of course is true.

R: Yeah

M: That we should do.

R: But you have to be awfully careful how you give that to the women

otherwise they'll think you know that they're just becoming a—

M: It will be interesting to see whether they mean you for the field.

R: Yeah

M: Though they didn't say so—because they call it field division in one sentence and in the next sentence they spoke of activities and I couldn't get them down.

R: No—well that's it. We'll have to talk about it and they'll have to give us—

M: What separate activities would there be you see—except in the field except if it meant something that was going to take you out to many different places.

R: That's right and then of course the Council's affairs too — like—I mean a meeting, or a fund raising activity or summer parties or a garden—

M: Well I'd say if you mean that we're simply going to formalize and expand the things that the Committee of Women have been doing already—well then that is a different point.

R: Yeah

M: Because a great deal of the work is that—

R: Uh huh

M: So may be this is just making honest women out of us.

R: Very cute.

M: And er—well that's the way it is.

R: OK dear.

M: And er—I think that you and Ted and Dick and Jessica and I should get together.

R: Oh definitely. Say Monday and — or tomorrow. Well tomorrow we can't but Monday.

M: No I can't Monday—I'll be out (ind.)

R: Oh you can't—I see. Well lets make it Tuesday—at least far enough before our meeting so we can put it very carefully in the agenda and discuss it.

M: Yeah

R: And your free Tuesday.

M: Well er—

R: What is your—how about tomorrow? Well tomorrow you have the thing at the Consulate you know at four thirty.

M: Yeah I know

R: How is Tuesday the twentieth.

M: Well there's the Spanish Refugee Lunch and then there's the big meeting

out in Brooklyn that I have to speak at and the Administration Committee  
er—

R: You don't like to make appointments in the morning, do you?

M: I don't mind except it will be er—

R: What time is your lunch—one o'clock? twelve thirty?

M: Oh around that time—those lunches are—

R: Twelve thirty?

M: Twelve thirty—I could do it Friday afternoon before going to the  
Comrade (?) better than any other time.

R: All right—well may be that would be better. I'll get the boys together  
for tomorrow.

M: That's right.

R: Well do you want to make it about er—two thirty.

M: Two

R: Two o'clock

M: Yeah

R: Two

M: Yeah that will be much better for me

R: All right —and suppose I make it and I'll phone you the consignment (?).

M: OK Dear—goodbye.

END

4/19/51  
Chief Clerk: *NP*

Reopen Case *NP*

New York, New York

*Subj.: Ruth Russ*

4/11/51

MEMO:

RE: CIVIL RIGHTS CONGRESS  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

FOIA(b)(7) - (D)

On February 5, 1951, Confidential Informant [redacted] of known reliability, advised that an individual identified as RUTH RUSS requested that Miss ELAINE ROSS of the New York State Civil Rights Congress Office supply a speaker for February 20, 1951, at 8:45 P.M., on the westside at the home of Miss NETTIE ZIMMERMAN, 157 West 74th Street. RUTH said the meeting was for organizing purposes in "our area," and Miss ROSS suggested that RUTH get in touch with "the other people on the westside around 110th Street" to see how they hold their meetings.

Shortly thereafter, the informant said, BILL KARSON requested MOLLY BLOCK of the New York State Civil Rights Congress Office to have that office supply a speaker for the evening of March 23, 1951, for a forum on "The Problem of Minority Groups in the U. S.," which was to be given by the American Labor Party of the Third Assembly District in the Bronx at 154 West Tremont Avenue. MOLLY promises that the Civil Rights Congress will send a speaker to the meeting on Civil Rights and also suggests that KARSON also get a speaker from the American Committee for the Protection of Foreign Born at Murray Hill 4-3457, who would deal with the minority question.

The Confidential Informant advised that a Mr. RINALDO, (phonetic), identifying himself as of the Newark Communist Party, contacted the New York State Civil Rights Congress Office and stated, "we are having a mass meeting here next Sunday too, (on February 11th), at which one of the main things is going to be the case of the Trenton Six."

CC: 100- (ELAINE ROSS)  
100-75504 (RUTH RUSS) *80*  
100- (BILL KARSON) *100-75504-5*  
100-98451 (MOLLY BLOCK)  
100- (NETTIE ZIMMERMAN)

DPA:JT  
100-80675

FBI NEW YORK  
APR 10 1951

Memo  
NY 100-80675

RINALDO said that he wanted to be certain that BESSIE MITCHELL would be able to speak at the affair, as she had promised LOU MOROZE on the previous Saturday night.

Miss SHAPIRO of the Civil Rights Congress Office advised RINALDO that he could contact Miss MITCHELL at her home at 129 West 128th Street.

DONALD P. ADAMS, SA

New York, N.Y.  
Feb. 29, 1952

MEMO

RE: CRC  
IS - C

FOIA(b)(7) - (D)

On January 7, 1952 C.I. [redacted] advised SE ROBERT E. O'TOOLE that a woman identifying herself as AUDREY HARRIS, of Judson 6-3263, of the United Packing House Workers Union, requested that the CRC furnish them with any available copies they might have of the Smith Act or the McCarran Act.

Shortly thereafter RUTH RUSS, of the "Compass", said that she understood NAT ROSS desired to have lunch with her and scheduled a luncheon engagement with him for the following week. (P) 100-95474

Finally, the Informant said that ELAINE ROSS was told by an unidentified woman that Professor WARD was sick and could not join the delegation.

DONALD P. ADAMS, SA

CC: 100-83496(ELAINE ROSS)  
100- (RUTH RUSS)  
100-7413 (NAT ROSS)

DPA:RK  
100-80675

100-75504-6  
[Handwritten initials and a large oval stamp]

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC

DATE: 4/23/53

FROM : SA E. K. Deane

SUBJECT: Ruth W. Russ  
102 West 85 St.~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

SAC - C 7.9.24.7.9.

FOIA(b)(7) - (D)

[redacted] of known reliability, made available to the New York Office information concerning the above-captioned subject, obtained from the building located at 23 West 26 Street, New York City. This building is occupied by the Civil Rights Congress, American Committee for Protection of Foreign Born, Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee and Veterans of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade, all of which have been declared by the Attorney General of the United States to fall within the purview of Executive Order 9835. In addition, other Communist Party front groups and individual Communist Party members or sympathizers occupy offices at this address.

Strict care must be exercised so that the existence of this important source of evidence will not become known to any outside agency. It is also to be noted that because of the nature of this source of information it will be impossible to recontact the source regarding information furnished.

Date information received 4/20/53

Identity of employee who can testify as to the receipt of the exhibit SA J. D. Feehaley + SE K. F. Buckley

The following disposition is being made of the original exhibit:

- ( ) Placed in NY file \_\_\_\_\_ Serial \_\_\_\_\_ Exhibit# \_\_\_\_\_
- ( ) Forwarded to you for your information and whatever action you deem appropriate.

Description of exhibit: See Attached

100-75504-7

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
APR 23 1953	
FBI - NEW YORK	

H. J. Smith



RECEIVED 4 . 20 . 53

FROM



K.T. 1 - 3 - 22

FOIA(b)(7) - (D)

# NEW WORLD REVIEW

114 East 32 Street, New York 16

Note New Address:  
23 W. 26th St., N.Y.C.

Telephone: Murray Hill 3-3855

April 8, 1953

Dear Friend:

As Editor of New World Review, I naturally follow with intense interest the progress of the magazine's circulation — its ups and downs. We are always eager to get our readers' reactions: their criticism and their suggestions.

I am writing you because you have not renewed your subscription. It is possible that you decided not to renew your sub because (a) you do not have sufficient leisure time to read NEW WORLD REVIEW, along with your other reading; (b) the magazine has not lived up to your expectations; (c) your budget does not permit the expenditure for NWR.

If we had your replies to these questions, it would be most helpful. Won't you please fill out the brief questionnaire below and mail it to me in the enclosed postage-free envelope? We would be very grateful.

Sincerely yours,

Jessica Smith

Jessica Smith, Editor

NEW WORLD REVIEW — 23 West 26th Street, New York 10, New York

I did not renew my subscription to NWR because of:

- ( ) insufficient leisure  
( ) lack of interest  
( ) budget problem

APR 15 1953

Comment:

NAME.....

MRS. RUTH W. RUSS

Please Print

STREET.....

102 West 85 Street

CITY.....

New York

ZONE.....

24

STATE.....

N.Y.

65/dpowa

Dear Jessica, This must be an error —  
to see Don in or around the middle  
of January, 1953 and renewed my sub — in cash. Ruth

**Federal Bureau of Investigation**  
**United States Department of Justice**  
290 Broadway  
New York 7, New York



PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

June 1, 1953

Mr. Edward L. Braune, Agent  
New York Telephone Company  
140 West Street  
New York 7, New York

Dear Mr. Braune:

In connection with an official investigation being conducted by this office, it is requested that you make available all background information which your files might contain concerning

Ruth Russ  
102 W 85th St., NYC  
TR 7-0429

Your cooperation in this matter will be greatly appreciated.

Very truly yours,

*Leland V. Boardman*  
LELAND V. BOARDMAN  
Special Agent in Charge

TJM  
100-75504

*100-75504-8*

OFFICE MEMORANDUM - UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC

DATE: 6-19-53

FROM: SA E.K. Deane

SUBJECT: Ruth W. Russ  
102 W 85 St.

FOIA(b)(7) - (D)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

[ ] of known reliability, made available to the New York Office information concerning the above-captioned subject, obtained from the building located at 23 West 26 Street, New York City. This building is occupied by the American Committee for Protection of Foreign Born, Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee and Veterans of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade, all of which have been declared by the Attorney General of the United States to fall within the purview of Executive Order 9835. In addition, other Communist Party front groups and individual Communist Party members or sympathizers occupy offices at this address. Prior to 2/1/53 the State and National Offices of the Civil Rights Congress were located at this address. Subsequent to that date space in the building has been occupied by SRT Publications, Inc.; publishers of "New World Review" formerly known as "Soviet Russia Today" which has been cited as a Communist Front by the Special Committee on Un-American Activities, House of Representatives, 6/25/42 and 3/29/44.

Strict care must be exercised so that the existence of this important source of evidence will not become known to any outside agency. It is also to be noted that because of the nature of this source of information it will be impossible to recontact the source regarding information furnished.

Date information received 6-8-53

Identity of employee who can testify as to the receipt of the exhibit

SA E.K. Deane & SE N.J. Hand

The following disposition is being made of the original exhibit:

(X) Placed in NY file Serial Exhibit#

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JUN 19 1953	
NEW YORK	
H. J. Smith	

( ) Forwarded to you for your information and whatever action you deem appropriate.

Description of exhibit: 3x5 card believed to constitute a record of contribution and/or subscribe to the New World Review

Ruth W. Russ  
~~114 E. 32nd St.~~  
N.Y. 16, N.Y.

1/26/49 2.00 8.16  
3/11/50 4.50

102 W 85th St  
N.Y.C.

c/o Alex. Campbell  
140 E. 11th St  
N.Y.C.

NEW WORLD REVIEW

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC, NY

FROM : HUGH J. SMITH, SA (100-75504)

SUBJECT: RUTH RUSS, wa  
SM - C

DATE: OCT 9 1953

The following investigation, with negative results, was conducted in connection with above case.

The records of the following department stores were reviewed and they failed to reflect any new information concerning the subject:

Gimbel Brothers  
Broadway and 33rd St., NYC

Lord and Taylor  
Fifth Ave. and 38th St., NYC

Best and Company  
Park Ave. and 50th St., NYC

The above stores were mentioned in Credit Bureau report as being stores in which RUSS had charge accounts.

Mr. JOHN DOOLEY, Superintendent of the building at 350 West 12th Street, NYC, advised that in his twelve years as superintendent at this address, he has never had a tenant named RUSS.

Mr. THOMAS O'SULLIVAN, Superintendent, 300 West 12th Street, NYC, advised he has not had a tenant named RUSS in his eleven years as superintendent.

Mrs. ANN O'BRIEN, owner of the building at 260 West 12th St., NYC, advised that the entire building has been a private residence since the early 1930's. In the late twenties or early thirties there was a young couple who had an apartment in this building. Mrs. O'BRIEN could not recall their names or anything about them.

The records of Consolidated Edison and New York Bell Telephone Company were checked with negative results.

HJS:JK

JK

100-75504-10

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
OCT 14 1953	
FBI - NEW YORK	

*[Handwritten signature]*

Director, FBI

OCT 9 1953

SAC, New York (100-75504)

RUTH RUSS, wa:  
Mrs. Philip W. Russ  
SM - C

X It is recommended that a Security Index Card be prepared on the above-captioned individual.

— The Security Index Card on the captioned individual should be changed as follows: (Specify change only)

NAME RUTH RUSSALIASES Mrs. Philip W. RussNATIVE BORN X NATURALIZED        ALIEN       COMMUNIST X SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY        INDEPENDENT SOCIALIST LEAGUE       MISCELLANEOUS (Specify)       TAB FOR DETCOM        TAB FOR COMSAB        RACE White SEX FemaleDATE OF BIRTH Unknown PLACE OF BIRTH New York City (not verified)BUSINESS ADDRESS (Show name of employing concern and address) Unknown

NATURE OF INDUSTRY OR BUSINESS (Specify from Vital Facility List)

NoneRESIDENCE ADDRESS 102 West 85th Street, New York City

HJS:JK

SECURITY INFORMATION - ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



~~SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director, FBI

10/8/53

*WPD* SAC, New York (100-75504)

RUTH RUSS, wa:  
Mrs. Philip W. Russ  
SM - C

FOIA(b)(7) - (D)

Background

The records of the NYC Board of Elections indicate that RUTH RUSS was 45 years of age during May, 1943. The subject is married to one PHILIP W. RUSS who resides with the subject at 102 West 85th Street, New York City. The subject's employment is unknown.

CP Activities

A review of the references of the New York Office indicates that the subject has been thought to be a member of the CPA during 1944. She has been identified as having been employed by the Russian War Relief during 1941, the National Council for American Soviet Friendship from 1944 to 1950 and for the Compass Clubs of America during 1952. RUSS was secretary of the NFCL during 1941 and is an acquaintance of JESSICA SMITH, Editor of "Soviet Russia Today."

The subject subscribed to the "New World Review" in 1953 and was active in the Womens Committee, NCASF from 1944 through 1950. The subject's superior at the NCASF has been reported to be a Communist as well as President of the CAW. The subject during 1949 was on the Committee of Resolutions, CAW and during 1951 was a requested speaker for the CRC. The subject was a contact during February, 1952 of NAT ROSS, Executive Director of the NY CRC. The subject supported the ALP during 1951.

REGISTERED MAIL

1 - ~~FOIA(b)(7) - (D)~~

JJJ:MRG *Mr. J*

~~SECURITY INFORMATION - CONFIDENTIAL~~

*100-75504-12*

Letter to Director, FBI  
NY 100-75504

FOIA(b)(7) - (D)

SAC, Newark

OCT 9 1953

*WFO* SAC, New York (100-75504)

*M* RUTH RUSS, wa  
SM - C  
(Origin: New York)

Rerep of SA PHILIP J. CARROLL, Newark, 6/11/46, entitled,  
"National Council for American Soviet Friendship, Inc., Internal  
Security - C," (Number 100-5336).

Please furnish this office with the necessary five  
point documentation for information attributed to   
(temporary symbol T-4) on page 13 of referenced report.

This information is needed in the preparation of a  
summary report in the captioned matter.

FOIA(b)(7) - (D)

*AK*  
HJS:JKV

*100-75504-13*

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
**SECURITY INFORMATION**  
**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION**

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **NEW YORK**

FILE NO.

**JH**

REPORT MADE AT <b>NEW YORK</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>10/9/53</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>10/3, 7-10, 13-15, 20, 21-22, 25, 29/10/53</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>HUGH J. SMITH</b>
TITLE <b>RUTH RUSS, wa; Mrs. Philip W. Russ</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>SECURITY MATTER - C</b>

## SUMMARY REPORT

## Synopsis of facts:

*A. Russ is a subject of 11/2/53*

RUTH RUSS resides 102 West 85th St., NYC. Present employment unknown. RUSS thought to be member of Communist Political Association in 1944. Reliable informants advise RUSS employed by Russian War Relief 1941, National Council for American Soviet Friendship 1944 through 1950 and for the Campes Clubs of America in 1952; RUSS was Secretary of National Federation of Constitutional Liberties in 1941; Confidential informant advises RUSS is acquaintance of JESSICA SMITH, Editor of "Soviet Russia Today;" RUSS subscribed to New World Review in 1953; RUSS very active in the Women's Committee, National Council for American Soviet Friendship from 1944 through 1950; MARIEL DRAPER, subject's immediate superior at NCASF reported to be Communist as well as president of the Congress of American Women; subject on Committee of Resolutions, Congress of American Women in NYC in 1949; RUSS requested speaker from the CRC in February 1951 for "purposes of organization" in her area; RUTH RUSS reportedly had lunch with one NAT RUSS, Executive Directory of NY Civil Rights Congress in February 1952. RUSS supported ALP in 1951.

- P -

## DETAILS:

This investigation is predicated upon information furnished by T-1, of known reliability, who advised in December 1944 that RUTH RUSS, 102 West 85th Street, New York, New York, was an associate of one LILLIE BERGMAN, an admitted member of the Communist Political Association in 1944. T-1

APPROVED AND FORWARDED  SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	100-75504-14	
COPIES OF THIS REPORT  5 - Bureau (RM) 3 - New York (100-75504)	<div style="text-align: center;">RECEIVED</div> <div style="text-align: center;">OCT 14 1953</div>	

PROPERTY OF FBI—This confidential report and its contents are loaned to you by the FBI and are not to be distributed outside of agency to which loaned.

NY 100-75504

advised that RUTH RUSS was probably a member of the Communist Political Association in 1944.

It will be noted that the Communist Political Association, after assuming that name on May 20 to 23, 1944, the party for strategic reasons resumed the name of Communist Party of the United States on July 26-28, 1945. The foregoing is from the Congressional Committee on Un-American Activities, Report 209, April 1, 1947, page 29.

The Communist Party and the Communist Political Association have been cited by the Attorney General as organizations within the purview of Executive Order 10450.

#### BACKGROUND

##### Birth and Citizenship

The records of the Board of Elections, Borough of Manhattan, as checked by SE CLINTON E. POLLOCK in May 1953 reflected that RUTH RUSS, 102 West 85th Street, New York, New York, is 45 years of age and has resided 45 years in New York County.

##### Marital Status

The records of the Credit Bureau of Greater New York as checked by SE RICHARD F. O'HARA in October 1952 reflect that RUTH RUSS, 102 West 85th Street, New York, New York, is the wife of PHILIP W. RUSS of the same address. These records reflect that PHILIP is employed by the Jewish Welfare Board, 145 East 32nd Street, New York, New York.

##### Employment

A credit report dated October 8, 1941, prepared by the Credit Bureau of Greater New York, as checked by SE RICHARD F. O'HARA reflected that RUTH RUSS was employed by the Russian War Relief, 535 Fifth Avenue, New York City in 1941 and was Regional Supervising Secretary in the New York office.

NY 100-75504

T-3, T-5, T-7, T-8, T-10, T-12, all of known reliability, advised that RUTH RUSS spent a great deal of her time at the National Council for American Soviet Friendship in the years 1944, 1945, 1946, 1947, 1948 and 1950.

T-18, of unknown reliability, but who is in a position to furnish accurate information concerning the subject's employment advised in November 1952 that RUTH RUSS was employed by the Compass Clubs of America, National Headquarters, 255 West 34th Street, New York, New York, in November 1952.

Residences

The records of the Credit Bureau of Greater New York as checked by SE RICHARD P. O'HARA reflected the following residences for RUTH RUSS:

300 West 12th Street  
New York, New York

350 West 12th Street  
New York, New York

260 West 12th Street  
New York, New York

Mr. FRITZ JOHNSON, Superintendent, 102 West 85th Street, New York, New York, advised in October 1952 that his records reflect that PHILIP and RUTH RUSS have resided at this address since December 1942. JOHNSON has been superintendent at this address for only a few months and that the former superintendent one WILLIAM NOLRYD has moved out of the city. Mr. JACOB TWIRKEL, owner of 102 West 85th Street, New York, New York, advised in October 1952 that he has owned the premises for about two years and knows very little about the RUSS family.

Mr. HARRY SMITH, night man at 102 West 85th Street, New York, New York, advised in October 1952 that the RUSSSES

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are quiet people who mind their own business, and that he knows nothing about the employment or background of PHILIP or RUTH RUSS, but that RUTH RUSS leaves the building at about the same hour each morning and it is his opinion that she is gainfully employed.

CONNECTIONS WITH THE COMMUNIST PARTY OR COMMUNIST PARTY FRONT ORGANIZATIONS

National Federation of Constitutional Liberties

T-2, of known reliability, advised in 1941 that a RUTH RUSS was Secretary of the National Federation of Constitutional Liberties in 1941.

The National Federation of Constitutional Liberties is an organization designated by the Attorney General as coming within the purview of Executive Order 10450.

Communist Political Association

As previously noted in this report, T-1, of known reliability, advised in 1944 that RUTH RUSS, 102 West 85th Street, New York, New York, was an associate of one LILLIE BERGMAN, an admitted member of the Communist Political Association in 1944. T-1 also advised that he viewed a document which indicated possible membership by RUTH RUSS in the Communist Political Association in 1944.

T-6, of known reliability, advised in July 1945 that RUTH RUSS was a contact of NINA ROBINSON, 331 West 70th Street, New York, New York in 1945. ROBINSON was incumbent chairman of a Thomas Jefferson Club, Communist Political Association, at this time. T-6 stated that he had reason to believe that RUTH RUSS was also a member of the Thomas Jefferson Social Club at this time.

Soviet Russia Today

T-3, of known reliability, advised on October 25, 1944 that RUTH RUSS of the National Council for American Soviet Friendship held a conference with one JESSICA SMITH, of "Soviet Russia Today."

It will be noted that the National Council for American Soviet Friendship has been cited by the Attorney General as coming within the purview of Executive Order 10450.

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Concerning "Soviet Russia Today," it was cited by the Special Committee on Un-American Activities, Report, March 29, 1944, Page 167 as a Communist Front Organization and was cited by a Congressional Committee on Un-American Activities, House Report Number 1953, on the Congress of American Women, April 26, 1950, Page 108, originally released October 23, 1949, as a Communist Front Publication.

Concerning JESSICA SMITH, T-4, of known reliability, advised that JESSICA SMITH was a trusted Communist and her specific assignment is to extend the influence of pro-Sovietism in the United States among as many public figures and agencies of public opinion as possible.

T-7, of known reliability, advised in October 1945 that one NATASHA TAKCE, Assistant Editor of "Soviet Russia Today" contacted RUTH RUSS, in October 1945, Executive Secretary of the Committee of Women, National Council of American Soviet Friendship, for information about one EUNICE FULLER BERNARD, of the Sloane Foundation.

T-7 advised that TAKCE also requested RUSS to furnish her with the names of the ten leading women's organizations in the United States.

T-7 advised on February 13, 1946 that RUSS held a conference with JESSICA SMITH, Editor of "Soviet Russia Today". RUSS considered Mrs. HARRY TRUMAN'S alleged tacit support of the Daughters of the American Revolution in excluding entertainer HAZEL SCOTT from Constitution Hall in Washington, D. C. as a slap in the face to the Soviet Union.

T-20, of known reliability, advised in April 1953 that RUSS subscribed to the "New World Review," 23 West 26th Street, New York, New York, in 1953 and contacted JESSICA SMITH, Editor of the New World Review in regard to her subscription for 1953.

T-9, of known reliability, advised in January 1951 that the publication "Soviet Russia Today" would change its name to the "New World Review" but the purpose of the publication and its officers would remain the same, and would be published by SRT Publications, Incorporated.



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National Council For American Soviet Friendship

T-3 advised on November 20, 1944 that one EUGENE GORDON of the "Daily Worker" conferred with RUTH RUSS, Secretary of the National Council For American Soviet Friendship (NCASF). GORDON advised RUSS that the "Daily Worker" was interested in a case where some white men allegedly raped a negro girl in Alabama and that the "Daily Worker" was going to print the facts.

The "Daily Worker" is an east coast Communist newspaper.

T-5, of known reliability, advised in March 1945 that a meeting of a Forum of the Committee of Women, NCASF was held at the Hotel Barbizon Plaza, New York, New York, on February 28, 1945. RUTH RUSS, Executive Secretary of the Women's Committee was in attendance and advised that pamphlets on child care in the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics could be purchased after the meeting.

T-8, of known reliability, advised on January 23, 1946 that RUTH RUSS, Secretary of the Committee of Women, NCASF and MURIEL DRAPER, Chairman of the New York Committee of Women, NCASF, concerned themselves with the contemplated organizational activity of a Miss FASTOV of NCASF in the Boston area.

T-8 advised on March 22, 1946 that RUTH RUSS of the Cultural Committee NCASF and MURIEL DRAPER, Chairman of the Committee of Women, weighed the possibility of DRAPER resigning her present position to take the position of General Secretary of the NCASF. DRAPER indicated that nothing is done in the NCASF that she, DRAPER, does not initiate.

T-8 advised that DRAPER and RUSS on March 6, 1946 considered the arrangements to be made for a presentation to the Soviet Women's Anti-Fascist Committee on the occasion of Women's International Day.

T-4 advised that MURIEL DRAPER is a member of the Communist Party.

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T-9, of known reliability, advised on March 1, 1950 that MURIEL DRAPER is President of the Congress of American Women, which organization has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

T-10, of known reliability, advised in May 1946 that RUTH RUSS attended a dinner and conference marking the opening of the New Jersey office of NCASF on May 5, 1946. RUSS was seated at the speaker's table and was introduced by RICHARD M. MORFORD, Executive Director of NCASF. RUSS gave a short talk on the work of the Women's Committee in sponsoring letter writing between people of similar professions in the USSR and the United States.

T-8 advised in July 1946 that RUTH RUSS, Executive Secretary of the Women's Committee, NCASF, had been in Gary, Indiana and Indianapolis, Indiana, attempting to start new councils.

T-12, of known reliability, advised in February 1947, that RUTH RUSS was still active as Executive Secretary of the Women's Committee, NCASF.

T-8 advised in February 1947 that RUTH RUSS of NCASF contacted one WILLIAM S. GAILMOR twice in February 1946 in connection with her official duties with NCASF.

Concerning WILLIAM GAILMOR, a booklet entitled "Red Channels" published in 1950 by American Business Consultants, 55 West 42nd Street, New York, New York, which is a report of Communist influence in radio and television, was reported as a Communist Party member in sworn testimony at United States Senate Hearings on S. 1832, Part 2, Page 532.

T-8 advised in April 1947 that RUTH RUSS of NCASF, Committee of Women, had discussion with MURIEL DRAPER concerning a dinner given by the American Society for Cultural Relations with Italy (ASCRI).

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Concerning the American Society for Cultural Relations with Italy, the "New York Journal American" reported on April 9, 1947 that the ASCRI had a "Top heavy list of pro-Communists and one former Italian Fascist among the members and officers."

T-8 advised in May 1947 that MURIEL DRAPER and RUTH RUSS of NCASF were happy about the fact that the NCASF made \$12,497 at a recent bazaar. DRAPER told RUSS that she, RUSS, would be given other duties in addition to those she already has as Executive Secretary of the Committee of Women.

T-8 advised on April 4, 1948 that RUTH RUSS told RICHARD MORFORD, Executive Director of NCASF, that the Spring Festival Bazaar was proceeding in a very gratifying manner.

T-8 advised on April 14, 1948 that RUTH RUSS of NCASF told RICHARD MORFORD that she was urging representatives of various union groups to take active part in the movement against the motion picture, "The Iron Curtain."

T-12 advised in March 1949 that RUSS was contacted in her official capacity at NCASF by one LILLIAN RECHT in March 1949, former member of Congress of American Women, and who is believed to be the wife of one CHARLES RECHT, an attorney who has performed legal work for the Soviet Consulate in New York City. The records of the Foreign Agents Registration Section of the Department of Justice reflect that CHARLES RECHT is a registered attorney for the Soviet Embassy.

T-13, who is of known reliability, advised in 1939 that RECHT is a concealed member of the Communist Party and is allegedly the "Top man" of the entire Communist movement in the United States.

T-8 advised in April 1949 that one DOROTHY GOTTlieb, 1412 West Seventh Avenue, Brooklyn, New York, contacted RUTH RUSS in April 1949 requesting material for the Women's Panel at the World Peace Congress in Paris in 1949.

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Concerning the World Peace Congress, an article in "The New York Times" issue of April 21, 1949, LANSING WARREN reported that the World Congress for Peace, then being held in Paris "became a drive against the United States and the Atlantic Pact and for peace with the Soviet Union at any price."

T-14, of known reliability, advised in May 1951 that he attended the World Peace Congress in Paris in April 1949 and that these congresses were sponsored by the World Peace Congress which is an instrument of Soviet foreign policy.

T-16, of known reliability, advised in June 1950, that RUTH RUSS was still active with NCASF in February 1950.

Congress of American Women

T-15, of known reliability, advised in May 1949 that RUTH RUSS was on the Committee of Resolutions, Congress of American Women.

The Congress of American Women has been designated by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

Civil Rights Congress

T-17, of known reliability, advised in February 1951 that a RUTH RUSS requested ELAINE ROSS of the New York State Civil Rights Congress, supply a speaker for February 20, 1951, 8:45 PM at the home of one HETTIE ZIMMERMAN, 157 West 74th Street, New York City. RUSS said the meeting was for the purpose of organizing in "our area."

ROSS suggested that RUSS, with other people on the west side near 110th Street, to see how they hold their meetings.

In regard to the New York State Civil Rights Congress, the Civil Rights Congress has been cited by the Attorney General as an organization coming within the purview of Executive Order 10450.

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T-17 advised in February 1952 that one RUTH RUSS of the "Compass" understood that one NAT ROSS decided to have lunch with her, and she subsequently scheduled a luncheon engagement for him.

In regard to NAT ROSS, T-9, of known reliability, advised that NAT ROSS is the New York State Executive Director of the Civil Rights Congress.

Compass Clubs of America and American Labor Party

T-18, of unknown reliability, but who was in a position to have knowledge of the subject's activities, advised in November 1952 that RUTH RUSS was with the Compass Clubs of America.

Concerning the Compass Clubs, T-19, of known reliability, advised in November 1952, that the Compass Clubs of America in the New York City area, particularly in the Bronx, New York, area were formed with the leadership of Communist Party members, with the approval of higher committees within the Communist Party. T-19 further stated frequently Compass Club meetings were in actuality Communist Party meetings.

The records of the Board of Elections, Borough of Manhattan, as checked by SE CLINTON E. POLLOCK in May 1953 reflected that one RUTH RUSS, 102 West 85th Street, New York, New York, in 1951 indicated her intention to support the American Labor Party in the next general election.

Concerning the American Labor Party, it was cited as a Communist front by a Special Committee of the House Un-American Activities Committee in a report dated March 29, 1944, Pages 49, 77F, 153 and 189.

IDENTIFICATION RECORD

SA AUGUST J. MICEK caused a check to be made of the records of the Bureau of Criminal Identification, Bureau of Special Services and Investigations, New York City Police

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Department in October 1952, and no record was located for the subject.

MISCELLANEOUS

T-21, T-22, T-23, T-24, T-25, T-26, T-27, T-19, all of known reliability, who have some knowledge of general Communist activity in the New York City area were contacted in October 1952 and were unable to furnish information concerning the subject.

- P -

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

INFORMANTS:

Identity of Source	Date of Activity and/or Description of Information	Date Received	Agent to whom furnished	File # Where Located
T-1, Trash cover on Apt. 2C, 109 W. 84th Street, NYC, of LILLIE BERGMAN - BERGMAN was interviewed by SA ROBERT C. DAVIES, 1/16/45.	12/12/44, 3x5 card bearing 10 names and addresses, 7 of which had "C.P.A." after them. Subject was one of the seven.	12/12/44	SA ROBERT C. DAVIES	101-639-1A-4
T-2, Letterhead of National Federation of Constitutional Liberties	1941, name of RUTH RUSS appeared on letterhead of National Federation of Constitutional Liberties	1941	1941	Letterhead index Communist library. NYO of FBI
T-3, [REDACTED]	10/25/44	10/25/44		
FOIA(b)(7) - (D)	11/20/44	11/20/44		
T-4, LOUIS BUDENZ	Used to document associates.			
T-5, [REDACTED]	2/28/45, meeting of Committee of Women N.C.A.S.P. July 1945	3/13/45	SA ROBERT BROWNELL	Instant report
T-6, Trash cover at home of NINA ROBINSON, 331 W. 70th St., NYC	List of names & addressed. Memo attached to the list from recording Secretary A.E.O. MUNSELL had statement: "Why not check all those, who should not have their names given out on <u>Tueg. eve</u> and mail back to me by return mail?"	7/19/45	SA JOHN A. HANLEY from supt. of the premises HERBERT MAYS	100-26603-C59 p.4

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ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE CONT'D

INFORMANTS (CONT'D)

Identity of source	Date of activity and/or description of info	Date Recd	Agent to whom furnished	File # where located
T-7 [redacted]	10/10/45 2/13/46	10/10/45 2/13/46		
T-8 [redacted]	1/23/46 3/22/46 3/6/46 7/16/46 2/6/47 2/8/47 4/18/47 5/15/47 4/4/48 4/14/48 4/13/49	1/23/46 3/22/46 3/6/46 7/16/46 2/6/47 2/8/47 4/18/47 5/15/47 4/4/48 4/14/48 4/13/49		
T-9 [redacted]	used to document associate and organization			
T-10 [redacted]	meeting 5/5/46	5/15/46	FRANK M. RAISEBECK	[redacted]
T-11 not utilized				
T-12 [redacted]	2/26/47	2/26/47		
T-13 JOSEPH KLIEN in a signed statement	used to document the husband of an associate			



ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE (Cont'd)

INFORMANTS: (Cont'd)

Identity of Source	Date of Activity and/or Description of Information	Date Received	Agent to Whom Furnished	File # Where Located
T-14, O. JOHN ROGGE, 341 Broadway, NYC, former prominent member of World Congress of Defender of Peace	Used to document an organization.			
T-15, LOUISE PAGE MORRIS, formerly resided 121 Madison Avenue, NYC, member of Executive Affairs Committee C.A.W.	5/12/49	5/12/49	Probably to 100-80444- writer of 371 p. 11 report, orllay	
T-16, [REDACTED] FOIA(b)(7) - (D)	2/14/50 Letter from RUTH RUSS on NCASP stationery to STELLA ALLEN, Congress of American Women, 2 E. 32nd St., NYC	6/16/50	SA JOSEPH P. MC CANN	100-80444-544
T-17, [REDACTED]	2/5/51, statement of subject	2/5/51	SA DAVID P. ADAMS	Instant report
	2/7/52	2/7/52	SE ROBERT O'TOOLE	Instant report

NY 100-75504

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE (Cont'd)

INFORMANTS: (Cont'd)

Identity of Source	Date of Activity and/or Description of Information	Date Received	Agent to Whom Furnished	File # Where Located
T-18, Pretext phone call to Compass Clubs of America, Nat'l Offices, 255 W. 34th Street, NYC	Employment information	November, 1952	SA HUGH J. SMITH	Instant report
T-19, [REDACTED]	Used to document organization.			
	Negative	10/7/52	SA JOHN W. DOOLEY	Instant report
T-20, [REDACTED]	4/8/53, sub- scription blank to New World Review - note to JESSICA SMITH, Editor written upon it by RUTH RUSS	4/20/53	SA THOMAS J. FEEHELEY & SE KIERAN P. BUCKLEY	100-75504-7
FOIA(b)(7) - (D)				
T-21, [REDACTED]	Negative	10/10/52	SA ALEXANDER C. BURLINSON	Instant report
T-22, [REDACTED]	Negative	10/10/52	SA ALEXANDER C. BURLINSON	Instant report
T-23, NY-694-S	Negative	10/10/52	SA ALEXANDER C. BURLINSON	Instant report
T-24, [REDACTED]	Negative	10/10/52	SA ALEXANDER C. BURLINSON	Instant report
T-25, [REDACTED]	Negative	10/7/52	SA RICHARD H. BLASSER	Instant report
T-26, [REDACTED]	Negative	10/7/52	SA RICHARD H. BLASSER	Instant report

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ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE (Cont'd)

INFORMANTS: (Cont'd)

Identity of Source	Date of Activity and/or Description of Information	Date Received	Agent to whom furnished	File # where Located
T-27, <span style="border: 1px solid black; display: inline-block; width: 100px; height: 1.2em; vertical-align: middle;"></span>	Negative	10/7/52	SA JOHN W. DOOLEY	Instant report

FOIA(b)(7) - (D)

LEADS:

NEW YORK

At New York, New York

Will attempt to obtain further background information on subject through interview with neighbors.

Will await the decision of the Bureau with respect to the recommendation contained in form FD-122.

OCT 9 1953

Director, FBI

SAC, New York (100-75504)

RUTH RUSS  
SM - C

Enclosed herewith are five copies of the report of  
SA HUGH J. SMITH, dated OCT 9 1953 at New York.

The following is information concerning the subject,  
from the files of the NYO, which was not reported in above  
mentioned report:

[redacted] advised that on 1/3/46, RUTH RUSS, Secretary of  
Women's Committee NCASF told ALEXANDRA ALIKHACHKINA, employee  
of Soviet Consulate, NYC, that a women's club in Raleigh, N.C.  
desired a speaker on Russia for an event they were planning.

[redacted] advised that on 2/21/46, RUTH RUSS of NCASF  
discussed the possibility of having a dinner at the Consulate  
inviting several prominent women, among them Mrs. FRANKLIN D.  
ROOSEVELT. This discussion was with PAVEL IVANOVICH FEDOSIMOV,  
Vice-Consul, USSR Embassy, NYC. [redacted] reported two other  
contacts with FEDOSIMOV in 1946.

[redacted] reported that on April 9, 1947 the secretary  
of RUTH RUSS advised FEDOSIMOV that RUSS would be at the Consulate  
the following day at 2:00 P.M. to get information from FEDOSIMOV  
for a friend of hers who desires a job at the SOVFLOT.

[redacted] advised that on 6/12/47, one SANGA STARR  
told FEDOSIMOV that RUTH RUSS of NCASF has written the  
Consulate concerning her (STARR).

In connection with the investigation entitled,  
"LIONEL CANTON PERERA, JR.; DOROTHY BIDDLE PERERA - ESPIONAGE - R,"  
NY file 100-93836, [redacted] advised that on 4/22/49 RUTH RUSS  
contacted DOROTHY PERERA in regard to using DOROTHY'S home for a  
fund raising delegation, funds to be used to help MURIEL DRAPER.

[redacted] in report of SA CHARLES W.  
PEASINGER, WFO dated 3/9/49, advised that SERGEI ROMANOVICH  
STRIGANOV, of the USSR Embassy, gave a cigarette box as a  
Christmas gift to RUTH and PHILIP RUSS, 102 West 85th Street, NYC,  
WFO file 100-18851.

Enclosures (5)

REGISTERED MAIL

HJS:JK

SECURITY INFORMATION - ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Letter to Director,  
NY 100-75504

[redacted] in report of SA CHARLES W. PEASINGER, WFO, dated 5/13/49, advised that RUSS contacted STRIGANOV to thank him for being a guest at a luncheon of her organization in NY. [redacted]

[redacted] advised in October 1949 that one HARRY MARINSKY of South Norwalk, Conn. was in contact with VASIL O. MAKAROV, 3rd Secretary of the Soviet Embassy, Washington, D. C. MARINSKY was in contact with the above at the suggestion of MURIEL DRAPER and RUTH RUSS of the NCASF. The purpose was for MARINSKY to furnish some of his work to be exhibited by the Joint Anti-Facist Refugee Committee, 192 Lexington Ave., NYC.

[redacted] in the report of SA CHARLES W. PEASINGER, WFO, dated 2/10/50, advised that VASIL GEORGIEVICH MAKAROV, Cultural Attache, USSR Embassy made the acquaintance of RUTH RUSS, NCASF, while he was in NYC in November 1949.

FOIA(b)(7) (D)

[redacted] advised SA JOHN S. Mc COOL in February 1950, that VLADIMIR HOWDEK, Czechoslovakian Delegate to the United Nations, contacted RUTH RUSS of NCASF on 2/23/50 concerning a dinner to be held by the NCASF.

WFO confidential informant [redacted] advised in April 1950 that through VASIL MAKAROV, RUTH RUSS of NCASF secured Mrs. LIDIYA A. BAZYKIN, wife of the Counselor of the Soviet Embassy, Washington, D. C., as a speaker at her club in NYC on 4/22/50.

June 27, 1953

Consolidation Memo

Ruth Ruse

100-75504

The following file references were reviewed  
and found to be identical to Ruth Ruse 102 W. 85 St. N.Y.C.  
see pg. 2.

100-98941-1B1 \* 100-82231-37 p13  
\* 100-80675-3210 \* 100-7518-2616  
\* 100-6393 153 p1, 143 p2 100-80931-10 p23  
100-85800-1B 7726 p5 100-93422-124 p19  
100-90137-54 p3 100-7518-3394 B, p1  
\* 100-4931-5687  
~~100-80905-997 p10~~ 100-89971-24 p10  
100-87008-41 p11 \* 65-13828-227 p1  
\* 100-7518-2482 pp. 20, 25, 28 100-7951-356 p38  
100-7951-356 p16 \* 100-7518-1206 \* 100-75504-16  
\* 100-50874-132 p2 1186  
\* 100-26603 2090 p43  
65-# sub C 59-4 p4  
\* 100-7951-181 p28 \* 100-50874-96 p40  
100-24 R.I. 100-80931-15 p9  
\* 100-7518-771 \* 100-7518-1833 p86 p10, p56 \*  
100-93836-40 p55, 40 p1184 p. 79, 70, 53, 16  
\* 100-7951-281 p14 \* 100-95733-5 p9, 17, 24  
100-7518-1228

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED 74	FILED 15
OCT 9 1953	
FBI - NEW YORK	

*[Signature]*

Consolidation Memo - 100-75504

100-7518-2552

\* 100-80444-544

105-1183-4 page 3,4

-13 page 4

~~100~~ 18 page 2

100-94747-4 p 1

\* 100-80444-371\* p 4, \*\*

100-87008-21 p 11

\* 100-7518-869\* p 89, 91, 142

149, 155

100-94580 -1A3

100-91234-38 p 31

100-86033-1034 p 1

\* 100-7518-717, 740, 556, 595\*

653, 1184 p 67

100-24; 1902 p 12, 1738 p 57, 72

1748 p 9, 1792 p 5, 2075 p 2

2347 p 23

The above file references marked with an asterisk \* were incorporated in the report of SA Hugh J. Smith New York dated

Consolidation Memo - 100-7554

The following file references were reviewed and it could not be determined if they were identical with the subject.

FOIA(b)(7)-(D)

Letter dated 4-6-44

100-7518-1A1,544

The following file references were determined to not be identical with subject.

65-15683, 2 p 35

39 p 6

100-0-61185-A



SAC, New York (100-75504)

October 27, 1953

Director, FBI (100-405511)

RUTH RUSS

SECURITY MATTER - C

NEW YORK DIVISION

FOIA(b)(7) - (D)

Rerep of Special Agent Hugh J. Smith dated  
October 9, 1953, urlet dated October 8, 1953, urlet  
and Form FD-122 dated October 9, 1953.

You should also establish the date and place  
of her birth.

100-75504-17

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
OCT 28 1953	
FBI - NEW YORK	
H. J. Smith	

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC, NEW YORK (100-75504)

DATE: 12/8/53

FROM : SAC, NEWARK (100-38503)

SUBJECT: RUTH RUSS, wa.  
SM - C  
(ORIGIN - NEW YORK)

Reurlet 10/9/53.

The necessary 5 point documentation requested in referenced letter is as follows:

Informant	Description and/or date	Date Rec'd.	Agent to Whom Furn.	Location
[redacted]	Meeting 5/5/46	5/15/46	FRANK M. RAISBECK	[redacted]

It will be noted that [redacted] is now designated [redacted]

JVB:jms

RUC

Registered Mail

100-75504-8

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
DEC 10 1953	
FBI - NEW YORK	

**Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice**

290 Broadway  
New York 7, New York



PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

February 17, 1954

Mr. Edward L. Braune, Agent  
New York Telephone Company  
140 West Street  
New York 7, New York

Dear Mr. Braune:

In connection with an official investigation being conducted by this office, it is requested that you make available all background information which your files might contain concerning

Philip W. & Ruth Russ  
102 W. 85 Street  
New York City  
TRafalgar 7-0429

*3/2/54 To  
try SS-on hand  
re built  
man*

Your cooperation in this matter will be greatly appreciated.

Very truly yours,

*James J. Kelly*

JAMES J. KELLY  
Special Agent in Charge

*01 rec'd 3/8  
rd 3/15  
upt 4-1*

TMG: KC  
100-75504

*100-75504-192*

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

NEW YORK

JPA

REPORT MADE AT <b>NEW YORK</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>3/23/54</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>1/18-20,26;2/8,10,25;3/15-18/54</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>ROBERT F. STEVENS, JR.</b>
TITLE <b>RUTH RUSS, wa</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>SECURITY MATTER - C</b>

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Subject presently resides at 102 West 85th Street, NYC, and is a housewife.

- P -

DETAILS:

RESIDENCE and EMPLOYMENT

T-1, of known reliability advised on March 18, 1954, that RUTH RUSS presently resides at 102 West 85th Street, New York City with her husband PHILLIP RUSS and is not employed, but is a housewife.

- P -

APPROVED AND FORWARDED:	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
		<i>2</i>
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5-Bureau (100-405511) (RM) 3-New York (100-75504) <i>JPA</i>		100-75504-20

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NY 100-75504

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

INFORMANT

Identity of Source	Date of Activity and/or Description of Information	Date Received	Agent to Whom Information Furnished	File No. Where Original Information Located
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T-1 Pretext Telephone call (con- cealed Investigative Technique)	Residence and employment	3/18/54	ROBERT F. STEVENS, SA	Instant Report
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LEAD

NEW YORK

At New York, New York

Will await Bureau approval to interview the subject.

REFERENCES

Bulet to New York, 10/27/53.  
Summary Report, SA HUGH J. SMITH, 10/9/53, New York

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC, New York (100-75504)

DATE: April 2, 1954

FROM : Director, FBI (100-405511)

SUBJECT: RUTH RUSS  
SECURITY MATTER - C

[REDACTED]

Rerep Special Agent Robert F. Stevens, Jr.,  
dated March 23, 1954.

[REDACTED]

FOIA(b)(7) - (D)

100-75504-21

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APR 5 1954	
FBI - NEW YORK	

*RE Bldg...*

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# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **NEW YORK**

REPORT MADE AT <b>NEW YORK</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>7/28/54</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>6/24, 28, 29/54</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>JOSEPH J. MAC FARLANE</b> <span style="float: right;">bjz</span>
TITLE <b>RUTH RUSS, wa</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>SECURITY MATTER - C</b>

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

Subject employed Pottery of all Nations, Greenwich St. and Sheridan Ave., NYC. Subject interviewed 6/29/54, readily admitted affiliation and employed with the Russian War Relief; NCASF; NY Compass. Denied membership or sympathy for CP or CPA or affiliation with Congress of American Women or Thomas Jefferson Social Club. Subject could recall no one whom she could positively describe as a Communist. Subject based her affiliations with the above organizations on her profession as a promoter, which she has pursued the majority of her adult life.

- C -

**DETAILS:**

Subject interviewed by SA JAMES J. JOHNSTON and the writer on June 28, 1954, at which time she related the following information pertaining to her present and past affiliations and employments:

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3 New York (100-75504)			
<i>[Signature]</i>			

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NY 100-75504

Employment

Pottery of all Nations  
Greenwich Street and Sheridan Avenue  
New York City, New York

Affiliation with the Russian War Relief  
National Council of American-Soviet Friendship (NCASF)

Subject related that she was employed by the Russian War Relief Organization in 1941 as Secretary and Organization Promotion until 1943, at which time she accepted a similar position with the Women's Committee of the NCASF, which she held until 1950 when it passed out of existence. Subject related that she accepted the position inasmuch as it offered her valuable experience in the promotion field with an acceptable salary.

Subject pointed out that at the time she accepted the position with the Russian War Relief and the NCASF the United States and Russia were allies and all efforts were being exerted to win the war and to her knowledge it was not until after she had left the employment of the NCASF that she became aware of the citation of the Attorney General of the organization being subversive.

Subject continued that as secretary in the Women's Committee of the NCASF she witnessed no political inter-change of ideas and considers its purpose merely for the exchange of cultural ideas and raising funds for the better understanding between the American and Russian people.

Subject explained that there were many transactions with officials of the Soviet Embassy by mail and in some instances in person but that this association was only for the delivery of works of art or pamphlets explaining the cultural advancement of the Russian people.

Pertaining to the enrollment in the NCASF, subject related that there were many prominent individuals



NY 100-75504

of Republican and Democratic background, such as Mrs. LEWIS S. GIMBAL, JR. and Mrs. MARJORIE POST DAVIS, in addition to many others who were solely interested in working for the war effort.

In relating to the Attorney General's citation describing the NCASF as being subversive, subject declared that, although the United States undoubtedly has factual proof of its purpose, she herself could not with her knowledge of the Women's Committee, which was for all practical purposes separate and distinct from the National Council, find any reason for it being declared as such.

National Federation of Constitutional Liberties

Subject declared that she was employed for a short period of time in promotion work with this organization prior to her affiliation with the NCASF and remained with the Federation for only a short period of time due to the low salary.

Congress of American Women

Subject related she had knowledge of this organization's existence but was never a member or employed thereby.

Compass Club

Subject stated she became Chairman of the Compass Club after working for approximately one year as promotion manager. She continued her efforts in this organization were strictly in the promotion field for which she was hired.

Communist Party (CP)

Communist Political Association (CPA)

Thomas Jefferson Social Club

Subject was questioned exhaustively concerning the CP, CPA and the Thomas Jefferson Social Club membership to which she replied that she is not now or has she ever been a member or in sympathy with the CP in any form or manner.

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Subject related that all of her affiliations and activities with the above organizations were strictly on a professional employer - employee basis and any associations or friendships she may have inferred by her activities were solely in the performance of her duties to her employer.

- C -

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NY 100-75504

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

REFERENCE: Bureau letter to New York, 4/2/54

**CHARGE-OUT SLIP**  
**TRANSFER SHEET**

FD-5  
(3-23-54)

FILE \_\_\_\_\_  
Class \_\_\_\_\_ Number \_\_\_\_\_ Last Serial \_\_\_\_\_ Date 11-1-64  
Serials 23 transferred to FOIA(b)(7)-(D) \_\_\_\_\_  
Serials \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Serials \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Serials \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Employee: \_\_\_\_\_ *bi*

RECHARGE

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

To: \_\_\_\_\_ From: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
EMPLOYEE

\_\_\_\_\_  
LOCATION

## Office Memorandum : UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC, New York (100-75504)

DATE: August 10, 1954

FROM : Director, FBI (100-405511)

SUBJECT: RUTH RUSS  
SECURITY MATTER - C

Rerep SA Joseph J. MacFarlane dated July 28, 1954, at New York and your letter of the same date.

It appears inconceivable that the subject could have held the positions she held with the various Communist front organizations set forth in the rerep and at the same time not be aware of their Communist connections. It is, therefore, requested that the subject be thoroughly reinterviewed in an effort to determine her present sympathies. In this connection you should question the subject specifically concerning her activities and associates which have been previously reported. You should also request her to identify other members of these organizations. In addition to the above, you should attempt to obtain further background information including the subject's date and place of birth.

You should submit the results in report form and resubmit your recommendation concerning the preparation of a Security Index card.

SAC  
DIV. 1  
DIV. 2  
DIV. 3  
DIV. 4  
SEC. 1  
SEC. 2  
SEC. 3  
SEC. 4  
SEC. 5  
SEC. 6  
SEC. 7  
SEC. 8  
SEC. 9  
SEC. 10  
SEC. 11  
SEC. 12  
SEC. 13  
SEC. 14  
SEC. 15  
SEC. 16

FOIA(b)(7)-(D)

Chief Clerk:  
Reopen Case  
Origin

AUG 13 1954

100-75504-24

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
SERIALIZED.....	FILED.....
AUG 11 1954	
FBI - NEW YORK	

J. J. MacFarlane

CONFIDENTIAL

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **NEW YORK**

REPORT MADE AT <b>NEW YORK</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>SEP 21 1954</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>8/12, 20, 24; 9/2, 3/54</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>JOSEPH J. MAC FARLANE mac</b>
TITLE <b>RUTH RUSS</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>SECURITY MATTER - C</b>

## SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Subject was reinterviewed 8/20/54 and furnished substantially the same information pertaining to her affiliations, as previously reported. In addition, subject related that she has subsequently recalled that at one time she was asked to join the Congress of American Women and refused to do so. Subject born 2/22/05, NYC.

- C -

## DETAILS:

The subject was re-interviewed on August 20, 1954 by SAS JAMES J. JOHNSTON and JOSEPH J. MAC FARLANE at which time she furnished substantially the same information pertaining to her affiliations, as previously reported. However, it will be noted that in the course of this reinterview, the subject declared that subsequent to the initial interview, she recalled that on one occasion she was approached by an individual to join the Congress of American Women, which she refused to do.

In the course of the above interview, the subject declared that she was born on February 22, 1905 at New York City.

- C -

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>[Signature]</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE <i>[Signature]</i>	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
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NY 100-75504

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

REFERENCE:

Report of SA JOSEPH J. MAC FARLANE, 7/28/54,  
New York.  
Bureau letter to New York, 8/10/54.

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC NEW YORK (100-75504) (7-4) DATE: 6/28/56

FROM : SA JOHN W SCANNELL (7-4)

SUBJECT: RUTH RUSS

SM-C

FOIA(b)(7)-(D)

NEW YORK DIVISION

Re SAC LETTER 56-34 dated 6/15/56

Chief Clerk

Reopen Case

Origin

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SEARCHED INDEXED  
SERIAL FILED  
JUN 29 1956

FBI NEW YORK

7-4



## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC NEW YORK (100-75504)(7-4) DATE: 7/24/56

FROM : SA JOHN W. SCANNELL

SUBJECT: RUTH RUSS

SM-C

FOIA(b)(7)-(D)

NEW YORK DIVISION

Re SAC LETTER 56-34 dated 6/18/56

Mrs FRITZ JOHNSON, apartment house superintendent at 102 West 85<sup>th</sup> St., N.Y.C. advised on July 23, 1956 that captioned subject, who resides in APT 9 G at the above address, and who resides with her husband there as a housewife, is currently vacationing with her husband somewhere in Mexico. Mr Johnson further advised that captioned subject informed him that she would return to her home here in N.Y.C. sometime around the end of August. He stated that subject and her husband left N.Y.C. about July 15<sup>th</sup> and

7-5-56  
Chief Clerk  
Post 7-4  
7/24/56

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that she paid her rent for the apartment up to September 1,

1956

Inasmuch as captioned subject will be absent from

N.Y.C. until the end of August, it is requested that

this case be posted. Superintendent Johnson will be

reinterviewed in the latter part of August 1956 in order

to ascertain the exact date of captioned subject's return

to her home in N.Y.C.

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : SAC NEW YORK (100-75504)(7-4) DATE: 8/31/56

FROM : SA JOHN W. SCANNELL

SUBJECT: RUTH RUSS

SM-C

FOIA(b)(7) - (D)

NEW YORK DIVISION

Re SAC LETTER 56-34 dated 6/18/56

Mrs. FRITZ JOHNSON, apartment house superintendent, 102 West 85<sup>th</sup> St, N.Y.C., advised on 8/31/56 that captioned subject, who resides in APT 9-G at the above address is currently absent from N.Y.C. JOHNSON stated that he is unable to advise at this time when RUSS will return to N.Y.C., inasmuch as she is now on an extended vacation tour.

A review of the indices of this office reflects

Chief Clerk:

Close Case on this.

100-75504-28

SEARCHED.....	INDEXED.....
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AUG 31 1956	
NEW YORK	

FOIA(b)(7) - (D)

It is believed

that the time element concerned in arranging a contact and re-interview with her should be devoted to contacts and interviews with other subjects who would prove more productive.

It is, therefore, now being requested that this case be placed in a closed status.

*ed*  
*3/23/61*

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT  
M E M O R A N D U M

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-1469)

Date: 3/17/61

*WJH*  
FROM : SAC, NEW YORK (100-321)

SUBJECT: WILLIAM EDWIN BROWDER  
ESP - R  
(OO: NY)

On 3/16/61, AUSA RICHARD GASEY, advised as follows:

~~FOIA(b)3 - Rule 6(e), Grand Jury~~

*WJH*  
FAG:vm  
(13)

*100-75504-29*

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FBI - NEW YORK	

*12*

NY 100-321

~~FOIA(b)(3) - Rule 6(e), Grand Jury~~

When available the testimony of the above individuals will be reviewed and the Bureau will be advised of any pertinent information, and at the same time AUSA CASEY will be requested to make a determination on further action regarding the above named individuals.

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NY 100-321

On 3/15/61, Mrs. TUFFIAS, Personnel Department, Montefiore Hospital, Bronx, NY, advised that MARGARET BROWDER died in the above hospital on 3/7/61. She had no details concerning MARGARET BROWDER's death. The death will be verified and the Bureau will be advised.

INFORMATION REGARDING THE ABOVE INDIVIDUALS' APPEARANCE BEFORE THE FEDERAL GRAND JURY IS NOT TO BE MADE PART OF A REPORT, NOR IS IT TO BE DISSEMINATED.